

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 03/29/2021

## For further information, contact:

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## \*COVID-19 UPDATE\*

Since Friday, March 26, 101 Residents have Tested Positive, 53 More have Recovered, and City Learns of One New Fatality Associated with COVID-19;

Weekly Food Resource Guide;

Update on the Vaccine Equity Initiative in Framingham;

Reminder - Community Hour Tuesday at 5 p.m. – Discussing Framingham's Eviction Moratorium;

Health Department to Distribute Demographic COVID-19 and Vaccination Data Tuesday Morning

- Since Friday, March 26, 101 residents have tested positive, 53 more have recovered, and the City learns of one new fatality associated with COVID-19: The number of people in the City who have tested positive for COVID-19 is 7,549. With 5,796 recovered and 238 fatalities, Framingham currently has 1,515 active cases. The Framingham Health Department contacts the people who were potentially exposed and the owners of the businesses or places of employment where the potential exposures occurred to inform and counsel them on next steps (contact tracing). In addition to the active cases, the Health Department is following 670 residents in quarantine.
- **Weekly food resource guide:** To better manage the food demand, Framingham's Emergency Food Line's coordinators have developed a weekly guide about residents' food availability. View this week's guide in English, Portuguese, and Spanish, here.
- Update on the Vaccine Equity Initiative in Framingham: The City is one of 20 municipalities designated to be a Vaccine Equity Initiative member. Vaccine doses shipped to the City of Framingham are now used to improve vaccine access for residents who have been and continue to be disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. Guided by the State's framework, the Equity Initiative includes people of color, immigrants and recent arrivals, homebound and disabled individuals, individuals living in low-income and congregate housing, and individuals with multiple and complex medical needs. The City has convened a Vaccine Equity Working Group with several community organizations who serve the members of the target community.

On March 24, Framingham's COVID Vaccine Team began offering smaller-scale vaccine clinics at community-based locations. Recent clinics were held at the Latino Health Insurance Program, BRACE, and Pelham Apartments. Since March 24, 240 dose one Moderna vaccinations have been administered under the Equity Initiative. Those who received dose one were invited to return for a second dose at the same community site to become fully vaccinated. The COVID Vaccine Team will continue to offer several clinics each week at a variety of locations. In addition, the vaccine team will provide home visits to vaccinate functionally disabled and homebound residents.

Each week the City will release the total number of vaccines administered under the Equity Initiative.

- Community Hour Tuesday, March 30, at 5 p.m. Unpacking the Eviction Moratorium: Join Mayor Yvonne M. Spicer; Seth Izen and Li Morrison from MetroWest Mediation Services; Elizabeth (Betsy) Soule from MW Legal Services; and Eliot Yaffa from the City of Framingham to discuss the City's Eviction Moratorium. Attendees will be able to pose questions during the hour via Zoom's Chat function. If you cannot attend and have questions, please email <a href="mailto:kmcfalls@framinghamma.gov">kmcfalls@framinghamma.gov</a> with the subject line: March 30 Community Hour. Click <a href="mailto:here">here</a> for information on how to join. A video recording of the Zoom will be available following for those who cannot attend.
- COVID-19 in Framingham: Information on COVID-19 in Framingham can be found <a href="https://www.smart911.com/">here</a>. To receive information from the City on a mobile device, text "Join FraminghamMA" to 30890. Residents also can find updates on <a href="facebook">Facebook</a> and Twitter @Framingham\_MA. For questions regarding COVID-19 in Framingham, please call the City's informational line at (508) 532-5411, Mon-Fri., 8:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m. If there is an urgent update, the City will employ the "Alert Framingham" phone messaging system, otherwise known as Rave. To sign up for the City's Rave system, please go here: <a href="https://www.smart911.com/">https://www.smart911.com/</a>

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